



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)
Howle et al.) Examiner: Fortuna, Jose A.
Serial No.: 09/916,355) Art Unit: 1731
Filed: July 27, 2001) Docket No.: A148 1571
Confirmation No.: 7567)
For: FIBROUS SHEET ENHANCEMENT)

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Fee Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed July 1, 2003, please find enclosed a petition for a three month extension and check along with a declaration.

REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for discussing the present case with Applicants' representative and willingness to accept the accompanying declaration. As discussed, the declaration established the criticality of the order of the steps of addition in the present application. Specifically, the cationic polymer must be added first followed by the anionic polymers with the unexpected result being the formation of a complex that imparts increased strength and durability.